

**BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST
WORK SESSION/REGULAR MEETING
MAY 7, 2020
MINUTES**

MEETING OPENED AT 7:30 PM BY MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS.

MOMENT OF SILENCE FOR THOSE LIVES AFFECTED BY THE CORNOVIRUS.

PUBLIC MEETINGS STATEMENT READ INTO RECORD BY MUNICIPAL CLERK CAPASSO:

“IN COMPLIANCE WITH N.J.S.A. 10:4, OPEN PUBLIC MEETINGS ACT, NOTICE WAS PUBLISHED IN THE ASBURY PARK PRESS AND POSTED ON THE BOROUGH WEBSITE, THAT A WORK SESSION AND REGULAR MEETING OF THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL IS SCHEDULED FOR THE SEVENTH DAY OF MAY, 2020, WITH THE WORK SESSION TO BEGIN AT THE HOUR OF 7:30 P.M. AND THE REGULAR MEETING TO BEGIN IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING VIA MICROSOFT TEAM MEETING AT WHICH TIME, THE BUSINESS OF THE BOROUGH WILL BE CONDUCTED.”

ROLL CALL:

COUNCILMAN DAVIS: PRESENT COUNCILMAN LOWE: PRESENT
COUNCILMAN DiMEO: PRESENT COUNCILMAN McCARTHY: PRESENT
COUNCILWOMAN HODGES: PRESENT COUNCILMAN OGLESBY: PRESENT
MAYOR HARRY ROBBINS: PRESENT

WORK SESSION:

REVIEW OF REGULAR MEETING AGENDA:

Municipal Clerk Capasso reviewed the regular meeting agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

Time opened: 7:35 pm

Bruce Margenson, 5 Geneva Road, congratulated Matthew Kline for his promotion to Chief of Police. Mr. Margenson questioned the Ordinance 2020-03 regarding only two police sergeant positions. Mr. Margenson is concern two sergeants is not adequate to cover 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Mayor Robbins responded Chief Kline is a working chief and added that it has worked for many years with two police sergeants. Mayor Robbins stated at the present time the borough as only one sergeant adding the borough lost one sergeant when Police Officer

Kline became the Chief. Mayor Robbins also stated the borough will have a second sergeant when the civil service commission offers a police sergeant test this year.

Councilman Lowe stated he was a police sergeant for the borough for many years. Mr. Lowe explained one sergeant covers one side of the week while the other sergeant covers the other side of the week adding the sergeant is available 24 hours a day if an officer should need assistance. Mr. Lowe also stated with well-trained police officers and the leadership of the police sergeants, the borough police department works well.

Council President Oglesby stated the police chief over the years has felt two police sergeants is adequate adding he defers to the police chief's decision. Mr. Oglesby also stated the police chief is a working chief and with the two sergeants, one at each end of the week, the shifts are covered well.

Mr. Margenson stated he is not questioning Chief Kline's decision to have two police sergeants adding his concern is with the changing times he feels it would be safer for a third police sergeant.

Mr. Margenson questioned Lake Horicon being open as well as the playground.

Mayor Robbins responded the Lake Horicon is open for walking, hiking, running, fishing adding the playground is closed as per the state order. Mayor Robbins stated the governor has pushed the "stay at home" order another 30 days adding his hope is to have everything open this summer.

Mr. Margenson asked if the borough was moving ahead with the portable bathrooms.

Municipal Clerk Capasso responded the borough had the bid opening yesterday adding the borough received one bid that came in above the asking price. Mrs. Capasso stated it is now under attorney review.

Time closed: 7:43 pm

Council President Oglesby reported Public Works has extended leaves and brush pick up on Fridays until Public Works is able to reopen again. Mr. Oglesby also reported a resident has asked if there were any plans about electronics being picked up adding they are usually disposed of at public works.

Mayor Robbins stated the Public Works Committee will reached out to Dave Winton, Public Works Director in regard to electronic pick up.

Councilman Lowe asked about the inspection at the emergency service complex.

Mayor Robbins responded the borough engineer did inspect the emergency service complex and found no 'true' issues and added that there is no change since the inspection

CONSENT AGENDA:

All matters to be considered to be routine in nature and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items. If any discussion is desired by Council, that particular item will be removed from the Consent Agenda and will be considered separately.

RESOLUTIONS:

1. #20-081: Resolution re: Payment of Bills

ORDINANCES APPROVED ON FIRST READING:

“AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST, COUNTY OF OCEAN, STATE OF NEW JERSEY, AMENDING AND SUPPLEMENTING THE REVISED GENERAL ORDINANCES OF THE BOROUGH OF LAKEHURST AMENDING CHAPTER II ADMINISTRATION, SECTION 2-19 POLICE DEPARTMENT”
(#2020-03)

Motion by: Gary Lowe

Seconded by: Steven Oglesby

To approve consent agenda. Roll call vote held. All votes affirmative.

COMMITTEE/COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilwoman Hodges reported she spoke with Dave Winton, Public Works Department Head, adding all operations at public works are running smoothly.

Councilman DiMeo reported the Youth and Recreation Committee will be hosting a sidewalk chalk competition tentatively for the week of May 22nd. Mr. DiMeo stated sign up will be through email adding pictures will be taken of the artwork and posted on the Youth and Recreation Facebook page. Mr. DiMeo also stated the theme will be a dedication to all first responders.

Council President Oglesby reported there has been movement on the AFSCME contract and added there will be discussion on the police chief's contract during closed session.

Councilman Lowe reported the soccer and baseball fields have been seeded today and added the irrigation is on.

Mr. Lowe also reported the police department is having problems with their air conditioner. Mr. Lowe stated the air conditioner is outdated, they are no longer able to get parts and the cost to repair is more than it cost to replace. Mr. Lowe reported he will have Mr. Winton get quotes for a new air conditioner.

Councilman McCarthy reported the Board of Education had a regular meeting followed by a budget adoption meeting. Mr. McCarthy stated the superintendent reported the virtual

leaning is going well and will continue through the end of the school year adding there has been no mention of the summer program. Mr. McCarthy also stated food distribution will also continue Mondays and Wednesdays at 9:30 am to 11:00 am. Mr. McCarthy further stated the school budget for the 2020-2021 school year according to the agenda posted on the school's website is \$9,520,134.00 and the tax levy is \$1,325,208.00. Mr. McCarthy added the budget numbers are down \$300,00 from last year but the tax levy is up \$20,556.00.

Mayor Robbins asked if the school has laid off any staff during COVID-19.

Mr. McCarthy responded that there was no mention of layoffs.

Mr. McCarthy reported he spoke with Nick Sinkewitz, Chief of the First Aid Squad, and he stated the squad is still down members but are getting the job done.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Mayor Robbins reported the borough opened the lake this past weekend but had to close the lake due to 70 people gathering at the lake having a barbeque and using the fireplace. Mayor Robbins stated the borough will try again adding if people fail to comply with social distancing, tickets will be issued.

COMMENTS FROM PUBLIC:

Time opened: 8:14 pm

Robin Busch, 10 Second Street, asked if public works could be open on a Saturday with social distancing in place.

Mayor Robbins responded it would be difficult for social distancing when the resident signs in and when they drop off at the garbage truck.

Mrs. Busch stated with everyone doing "spring cleaning", they have a lot of items they like to dispose of.

Mayor Robbins responded you can leave bulk items at the curb on your schedule garbage day and added the public works committee will be speaking to Mr. Winton in regard to electronics.

Council President Oglesby reminded everyone you are allowed to place 1 to 2 bulk items on garbage day.

Time closed: 8:17 pm

CLOSED SESSION:

